Dear Mr. Hogan,

I am the owner/captain of the US Albacore pole/troll vessel Millie G. I have 30 years experience as a captain with the majority of those years as a Albacore pole and troll fisherman. I would like to respectively address some concerns with the present US/Canadian Albacore treaty.

At present the treaty is lopsided in favor of the Canadian vessels that have the privilege of entering and fishing in the US EEZ. Historically the majority of the Albacore catches come from US waters. Although I have caught some Albacore in Canadian waters over the years, historically only a small percentage of our "season" was out of Canadian waters. The 110 vessels that have the privilege of fishing in US waters have progressively become more and more aggressive on the fishing grounds hampering the US vessels ability to catch fish. Also, when areas of fish are concentrated the 110 Canadian vessels on top of the US fleet at times hampers our ability as US fisherman to work safely and efficiently, affecting our financial bottom line.

As the treaty does not require the Canadian fleet to unload catches from our waters in US ports, the economic benefit once again skips not only the US fisherman as individuals but, the financial benefits also escape the coastal communities. How much of the this resource is harvested and taken directly back to Canadian ports? The revenue generated by small business by the arrival of fishing boats in US ports is essential to the survival of those communities. Is this equitable?

This is the only commercial fishery that I participate in, as is true for many of the US Albacore fishing families. As worldwide demand for tuna grows, the ability for US Albacore fisherman to remain financially viable is huge. This resource which we have historically harvest in this sustainable method is something for the US to be proud of. We need to protect this resource, and more importantly the US families that rely on it. For these reasons i feel the treaty should be terminated.

Sincerely,

Jack Webster